

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office, facsimile no. (703) 672-9906, on the date shown below.

Dated: July 13, 2004Signature: Pt Yim

(Peter Yim)

Docket No.: 249212024500  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Lloyd A. POSTON

Application No.: 09/588,242

Filed: June 6, 2000

For: DATA STORAGE SYSTEM AND PROCESS

Art Unit: 2186

Examiner: M. Anderson

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

JUL 13 2004

OFFICIAL

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTMS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims, as amended, in light of the remarks presented herein are respectfully requested.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SF-1741201